

REMARKS

In this Supplemental Amendment after Final, Applicants propose amending claims 18, 23, and 30 to more appropriately define the present invention. For the Examiner's convenience, in light of the new revised format for amendments going into effect today (July 30, 2003), Applicants are **re-presenting** the amendments to claims 18 and 23 that were previously presented in the Amendment after Final filed on July 24, 2003, along with the proposed amendment to claim 30, in this Supplemental Amendment after Final. Applicants incorporate by reference the arguments and remarks contained in the July 24, 2003 Amendment after Final, supplemented as follows:

Regarding the Rejection of Claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd ¶:

Applicants supplement this corresponding section of the Amendment after Final, filed on July 24, 2003, with the following remarks.

Regarding the rejection of claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, the Examiner indicated that claim 30 should be clarified "whether "colloidal silica particles" refers to "first colloidal silica particles" or "second colloidal silica particles.'" (Final Office Action, p. 2).

In response, and to advance prosecution of the present application, Applicants have amended claim 30, as indicated on page 8 of this document, to recite "first colloidal silica particles" and "second colloidal silica particles" in the same manner as claims 18 and 23. Therefore, this amendment to claim 30 does not include any new matter, and Applicants therefore deem the rejection of claim 30 overcome. The pending claims fully comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and Applicants accordingly request withdrawal of the rejection.

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Conclusion:

In view of the foregoing, Applicants request reconsideration of the application and submit that the rejections detailed above should be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully request that this Supplemental Amendment after Final be considered by the Examiner, since it places the present application in condition for allowance. This Supplemental Amendment after Final should allow for immediate and favorable action by the Examiner.

Should the Examiner continue to dispute the patentability of the claims after consideration of this Amendment after Final, Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to discuss any remaining issues or to resolve any misunderstandings. Applicants' undersigned representative would welcome the opportunity to discuss the merits of the present invention with the Examiner if telephone communication will aid in advancing prosecution of the present application.

Please grant any extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 required in entering this response. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 1.17 including any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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